

Mr. Speaker, I have said in the past that doing business with Cuba means doing business with Castro. So long as Castro maintains his stranglehold on every aspect of Cuban life, allowing Americans to travel to Cuba would mean subsidizing Castro. Most Cuban tourist operations are run by the Cuban military and internal security services. These so-called "companies" funnel money directly into the regime, earning them the hard currency necessary to perpetuate their repressive policies. Contrary to popular belief, increased tourist travel to the island would not increase purposeful contact with the Cuban people. Canadians and Europeans have been traveling to Cuba for years, and yet there has been no measurable impact on or change in Castro's control over his people.

Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, 98 percent of Cuban citizens are forbidden even entry into the tourist areas, which is Fidel Castro's way of denying foreigners the ability to gain a glimpse into the reality of Cuban life. Those Cubans who do work at the resorts are forbidden to engage in certain types of conversations with foreigners, including any mention of Cuba's political situation, the U.S. embargo, and other such issues.

Citizens who work at the resorts are employed by a State employment agency run by the Castro regime. The foreign resorts pay the worker's wages to the state agency in dollars, but the worker receives only pesos. Therefore, between 95 percent and 97 percent of a worker's wages are kept by Castro.

Mr. Speaker, by lifting travel sanctions with nothing in exchange from the Cuban Government, we are betraying the very people these policies were designed to help. By allowing American citizens to sip drinks on Cuba's coastline, we are turning our backs on the journalists and pro-democracy advocates that are wasting away in Cuba's jails. I urge my colleagues to join with me and oppose any attempts to lift travel restrictions and to remain committed to their support for the Cuban people.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for July 14 through 16 on account of personal reasons.

Mr. JANKLOW (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today and the balance of the week on account of medical reasons.

Mr. HAYWORTH (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today on account of medical reasons.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. HINCHEY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. HINCHEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. LEE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. SOLIS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WYNN, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. CARSON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SCHIFF, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MCDERMOTT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DOGGETT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WAXMAN, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. BURGESS) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. NORWOOD, for 5 minutes, July 16.

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, for 5 minutes, July 16.

Mr. BURGESS, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at their own request) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. HINOJOSA, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. Linda T. Sanchez of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GRIJALVA, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WATSON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ, for 5 minutes, today.

SENATE BILLS REFERRED

Bills of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 1233. An act to authorize assistance for the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum and Justice Learning Center; to the Committee on Resources and the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 1280. An act to amend the PROTECT Act to clarify certain volunteer liability; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 709—An act to award a congressional gold medal to Prime Minister Tony Blair.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 13 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, July 16, 2003, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

3180. A letter from the Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act by the Department of the Navy, Case Number 01-08, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1517(b); to the Committee on Appropriations.

3181. A letter from the Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act by the Department of the Navy, Case Number 99-09C, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1517(b); to the Committee on Appropriations.

3182. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Payment Bonds on Cost-Reimbursement Contracts [DFARS Case 2002-D030] received June 30, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

3183. A letter from the Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — TRICARE; Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS); Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children Overseas (RIN: 0720-AA75) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

3184. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Food Labeling: Trans Fatty Acids in Nutrition Labeling, Nutrient Content Claims, and Health Claims [Docket No. 94P-0036] (RIN: 0910-AB66) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3185. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Antidiarrheal Drug Products for Over-the-Counter Human Use; Final Monograph; Correction [Docket No. 78N-036D] (RIN: 0910-AA01) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3186. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Tires [Docket No. NHTSA-03-15400] (RIN: 2127-A154) received June 30, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3187. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Child Restraint Systems, Child Restraint Anchorage Systems [Docket No. NHTSA-03-15438] (RIN: 2127-AH99) received June 30, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3188. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Virginia: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revision [FRL-7516-4] received July 7, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3189. A letter from the Legal Advisor, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — 2002 Biennial Regulatory Review — Review of the Commission's Broadcast Ownership Rules and Other Rules Adopted